

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 NIC-01 SCI-06 SCEM-02 INT-08

TRSE-00 EB-11 COME-00 ACDA-19 /175 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:JABAKER,JR.:GB

APPROVED BY D:MR. RUSH

EUR:JAARMITAGE

NEA:RPDAVIES

S/S: DWMILLER

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P R 142317Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 008113

E.O. 11651: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YO

SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S JANUARY 10 MEETING WITH
AMBASSADOR GRANFIL: MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. PRIOR TO HIS RETURN TO YUGOSLAVIA ON CONSULTATIONS, AMBASSADOR GRANFIL OF YUGOSLAVIA CALLED TOGETHER WITH HIS MINISTER-COUNSELOR ON DEPUTY SECRETARY JANUARY 10. GRANFIL RENEWED THE INVITATION EXTENDED LAST SUMMER TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA INDICATING THAT A HIGH-LEVEL DISCUSSION OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ISSUES WOULD HELP TO DISPEL SOME OF THE SHADOWS WHICH HAVE RECENTLY BEEN CAST OVER US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS. DEPUTY SECRETARY ACCEPTED THE INVITATION IN PRINCIPLE BUT NOTED HE WAS SCHEDULED TO VISIT THE FAR EAST IN FEBRUARY AND WAS FREQUENTLY OBLIGED TO BE IN WASHINGTON BECAUSE OF THE SECRETARY'S
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TRAVELS. EARLIER IN THE CONVERSATION THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

MADE THE POINT THAT WE EXPECTED TO HAVE DIFFERENT VIEWS FROM YUGOSLAVIA ON MANY ISSUES AND THAT WE RESPECTED YUGOSLAVIA'S INDEPENDENT POSITIONS. IT WAS NOT SO MUCH THESE DIFFERENCES BUT THE MANNER IN WHICH US POSITIONS ON SUCH ISSUES AS CHILE, CAMBODIA, OR THE MIDDLE EAST WERE TREATED IN YUGOSLAVIA AND THE QUESTIONING IN YUGOSLAVIA OF US MOTIVES WHICH CAST SHADOWS ON WHAT WERE OTHERWISE GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY INDICATED THAT COOLING THE RHETORIC WOULD ASSIST THE

PROSPECTS FOR RESUMING HIGH-LEVEL EXCHANGES OF VIEW. GRANFIL'S DEPUTY TOOK A FEW NOTES BUT PACE OF CONVERSATION APPEARED TO OUTDISTANCE HIM. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR GRANFIL BEGAN THE CONVERSATION BY STATING HE WAS RETURNING TO BELGRADE JANUARY 11 FOR A MEETING OF YUGOSLAV AMBASSADORS TO EUROPEAN CAPITALS AND TO WASHINGTON. HE EXPECTED TO REVIEW US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS WITH HIS MINISTRY AND WISHED TO HAVE THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VIEWS. HE OBSERVED THERE HAD BEEN MANY SUCCESSFUL ACHIEVEMENTS IN US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS IN 1973 IN THE ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL AREAS AND THAT THERE WAS SUBSTANTIAL MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND US. HE ALSO POINTED TO GOOD CONTACTS IN CSCE, GENEVA AND THE UN. THERE HAD ALSO BEEN SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS RESULTING FROM DIFFERENT VIEWS ON VARIOUS ISSUES. THESE WERE CREATING SOME SHADOWS AND SOME COOLNESS IN THE RELATIONSHIP. EXCHANGES OF VIEWS SHOULD BE ENRICHED, HE STATED. WE SHOULD SPEAK FRANKLY WITH EACH OTHER AND NOT AVOID DISCUSSIONS WHEN DIFFERENCES EXIST BUT RATHER SEEK WAYS TO FIND COMMON APPROACHES SINCE BOTH COUNTRIES WERE DOING THEIR BEST TO SECURE A WORLD PEACE. HE RECALLED GOOD MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BY PRESIDENTS NIXON AND TITO IN 1971 DESPITE DIFFERENCES OF VIEW AND OBSERVED THAT YUGOSLAVIA WAS TURNING NOW TO THE US FOR SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING.

3. DEPUTY SECRETARY AGREED THERE HAD BEEN GOOD ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL

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AREAS BUT OBSERVED THAT RELATIONS IN ONE AREA CAN IMPINGE THOSE IN ANOTHER AND THAT RELATIONS MUST BE SEEN AS A WHOLE. U.S. HAD STRONG FEELINGS OF FRIENDSHIP FOR YUGOSLAVIA AND RESPECT FOR ITS INDEPENDENT POSITION. U.S. DOES NOT EXPECT TO AGREE WITH YUGOSLAVIA ON ALL ISSUES. AFTER NOTING THAT U.S. HAS BEEN DISPLEASED WITH THE KIND OF RHETORIC USED IN A NUMBER OF CASES IN YUGOSLAV TREATMENT OF U.S. POSITION ON ISSUES SUCH AS

THE MIDDLE EAST, CAMBODIA AND CHILE -- TO CITE A FEW
EXAMPLES -- DEPUTY SECRETARY STRESSED THAT QUESTIONING
OF U.S. MOTIVES IN SOME CASES HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY
NOTICED. THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY HAD PERCEPTIBLY DAMAGED
U.S. RELATIONS WITH INDIA AND SWEDEN. THE DEPUTY
SECRETARY EMPHASIZED THAT U.S. DESIRES EXCELLENT
RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA AND RESPECTS YUGOSLAV
SOVEREIGNTY AND YUGOSLAV POINTS OF VIEW. PROBLEM NOT SO
MUCH THAT OF DIFFERENT VIEWPOINTS BUT THAT OF TREAT-
MENT OF THESE VIEWPOINTS AND QUESTIONING OF MOTIVES.

4. AMBASSADOR GRANFIL STATED THAT HE WOULD ATTEMPT TO
CONVEY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VIEWS AND REFLECT HIS
WORDS. HE OBSERVED THAT PERHAPS SOME CONTACTS WERE
NEEDED IN ORDER TO CLARIFY VIEWPOINTS. FOLLOWING A BRIEF
EXPOSE OF KNOWN YUGOSLAV POSITIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST
PROBLEM, GRANFIL RECALLED HIS PRESENCE AT EXCHANGES OF
VIEWS BETWEEN PRESIDENTS NIXON AND TITO (1971)
AND SECRETARY ROGERS AND HIS HOSTS IN BELGRADE (1972)
AND EMPHASIZED THE VALUE OF THESE EXCHANGES. PERHAPS
THE U.S. IS OVERSENSITIVE WITH REGARD TO STATEMENTS MADE
IN YUGOSLAVIA, SAID GRANFIL. PERSONALLY HE COULD NOT
RECALL ANY EXPRESSIONS BY YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS THAT
THE U.S. WAS INVOLVED IN THE COUP IN CHILE. GRANFIL
STATED THAT HE SHARED DEPUTY SECRETARY'S IMPRESSION
THAT DIFFERENCES OF VIEWS WOULD REMAIN BUT EMPHASIZED
THAT APPROPRIATE WAYS MUST B
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE008113
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JABAKER,JR.:GB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740142/aaaabobo.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 20 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <24 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S JANUARY 10 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR GRANFIL: MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION
TAGS: PFOR, YO, US
To: BELGRADE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005